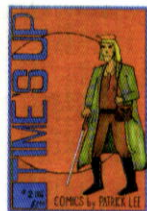




#1



#2



#3



#4

# Draw Pat



Art by Ariel Schrag

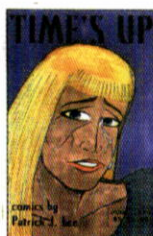
## And win a free issue of Time's Up!

Do you consider yourself an artist? A connoisseur of comics?

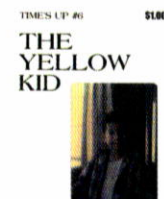
If you're both, you can take part in this exciting offer!  
Send us your best drawing of Pat and take home a  
free issue of Time's Up.



#5



#6



#7



#8

Dear Sirs: Enclosed is my drawing of Pat. Please send mrpe the issue(s) I've indicated below.  
Send cash only to: 280 N. Florence St., Burbank, CA 91505-3618  
For you non-artists, back issues are \$2.00 ppd. One winner per family.  
Supplies are limited, please list alternates. All artwork becomes the property of Airik Lee Productions.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

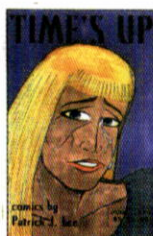
QTY | ISSUE | PRICE

TOTAL

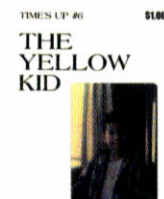
Are you the person you want to be?

☐ YES ☐ NO

You may photocopy this coupon if you do not wish to cut up this issue of Time's Up.



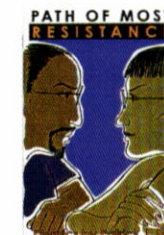
#5



#6



#7



#8

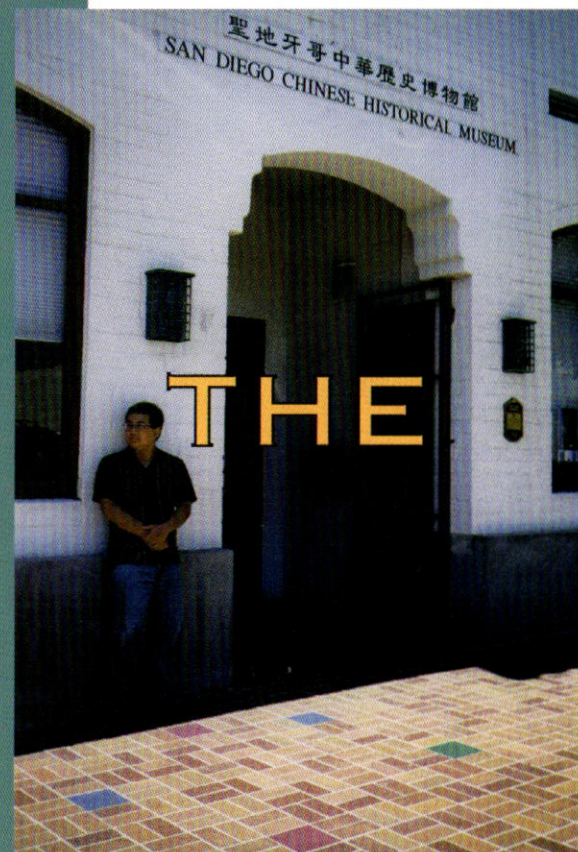
TIME'S UP #9 FEB 2000 \$2.00

# BEARING

# THE

# WAIT

COMICS BY  
PATRICK J. LEE





It's February and that means it's time for a new Time's Up. This issue, instead of one book-length story, I have 22 one-page strips for you.  
On with the letters...

My own interpretation of Time's Up #8 is that the story is really about the girl. She turns out to be a somewhat aggressive strong-willed female that likes to get her way. Later in life she found her man. I'm sure the marriage and child is what she was after and she got it for sure and no doubt rules her family with an iron fist.

H. L. Coats  
Indianapolis, IN

I applaud your ambition, and I appreciate your focus on everyday life.  
Adrian Tomine  
Berkeley, CA

I really enjoyed #8, especially the backflashes in that almost stream-of-consciousness style.

Rebecca D. Dillon  
Roanoke, VA

Really enjoyed your comic; I read the whole thing in front of my mailbox! An intriguing tale. I wonder what happened to my second grade boyfriend?

Bunnigrrrl  
San Juan Capistrano, CA

#8's story was the best part of it, I liked the themes of guilt and self-consciousness that run through it, between both Wes and Molly. Guilt and nostalgia

TIME'S UP #9 February 2000  
Published by Airik Lee Productions, 280 N. Florence St., Burbank, CA 91505-3618.  
©2000 Patrick J. Lee. First Printing. Special thanks to Davida, Emily, Leland and Therese. This issue would not have been possible without the efforts and machinations of Victor De Anda. Next issue--the final Time's Up?

Issues of Alphaville are 50 cents each or \$4.00 ppd. for the set of eight.

## Bearing the Wait

### TIME'S UP #9

by Patrick J. Lee  
280 N. Florence St.  
Burbank, CA 91505-3618  
elee1997@aol.com

are major motivations in people's lives, but often ignored in drama, probably because they're not as obviously visually compelling as other emotional impulses. Anyways it was a nice vignette, or meditation on the themes, which were skillfully insinuated and unobtrusive.

Trevor Alixopulos  
Fulton, CA

I think #8 is my favorite of your issues. I like the ambiguity about it being autobio or fictional. The uncomfortable pauses and echoing silence were very effective. Also, your letters pages were impressively edited.

Davida Gypsy Breier  
Havre de Grace, MD

I liked the way you opened up the story with the three panel tier (each panel, perhaps representing the past, present and future of the narrator). You are either very good at tapping into your own emotions and determining why you act the way you do in certain situations or else you are a good observer of others' behavior and actions--probably both I imagine.

Bruce Stengl  
Santa Rosa, CA

Jesse Reklaw's letter in #8 seems prophetic, since "grating" goes with "resistance" - which goes with "sentience" (as in scruples, inhibition, self-conflict, awkwardness). Ergo, a very "sentient" style can also be "grating," in Reklaw's sense of the term, because of awkward emotional complications or friction.

Rick Howe  
Springdale, AR

[continued on inside back cover]

I'm surprised that journal entry evoked such a response! Sure you can use it. However, I have never looked as sporty as you drew me in the beach panel. Curious George? Okay...

Davida Gypsy Breier  
Havre de Grace, MD

I don't know if it was your intention, but I felt that you captured the unsettling chill of frustration. I found myself wishing that page 24 wasn't the end of the story, but I suspect it is. Further development would just launch into fictional melodrama. Maybe that's it: reality is the essence of frustration. Or is it the other way around?

Jesse Reklaw  
New Haven, CT

By pure chance, I read the review of your zine Time's Up in the Factsheet Five #64. I think that your comics is interesting, and this is my attempt for trading. I know that Lavarint zine which I send to you is on strange language for you, but I hope that this not be a big problem. If you want, I'll send you some comics of my friends from Subotica (town where I live) with translation (on my horrible English language).

Mirko Stoilkov  
Yugoslavia

The name Time's Up seemed to be very fitting for the story. Your artwork is really cool. I thought the ending was sad. The whole thing made me rethink. I just love when comics do that to you!

Katrina  
Uncasville, CT

This is a hard kind of story to do-- I know from experience-- and I think you've done a really good job with it. Making it fiction rather than autobio must help a lot. The "aspect to aspect" page (p.17) is especially effective. I've got to try that sometime...

David Lasky  
Seattle, WA

I thought #8 was pretty scary in that growing up you learn more and more things you really could live without knowing. If only God would grant me perpetual 19-ness.

Amy Adoyzie  
Hacienda Heights, CA

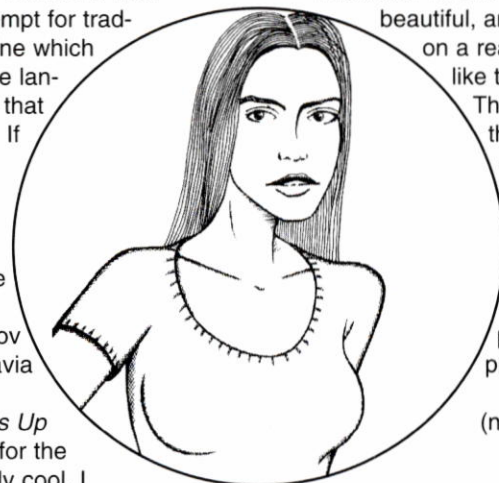
After careful consideration, we have decided not to publish your work at this time. Thank you for submitting your work to Interbang Magazine, and please feel free to submit more work in the future.

Heather Hoffman  
Venice, CA

The cover to She Said is quite beautiful, and if it's based on a real person, I'd like to meet her! There's just something about that wide, sensual mouth, those big eyes, and those beautifully normal-sized breasts...a piece to be proud of.

Jeff Smith  
(not the Bone guy)  
via the Internet

Thanks for the compliment. Yes, the cover is based on a real person. Although I don't know her personally, I wish I did.--Paet

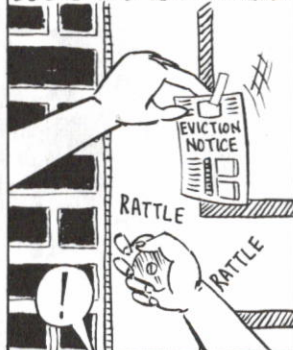




by Patrick J. Lee  
I ONCE HAD A DREAM  
(OR I GUESS YOU COULD  
CALL IT A NIGHTMARE)  
WHERE I LOST EVERYTHING.



WHEN I FINALLY MADE  
IT BACK TO MY APARTMENT,  
I FOUND THAT THE DOOR  
LOCKS HAD BEEN CHANGED.



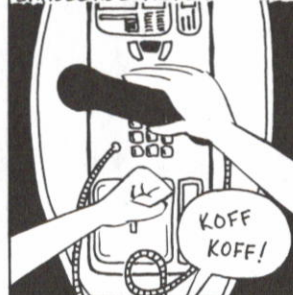
STUNNED, I DECIDED TO SIT  
DOWN AND TRY TO MAKE  
SOME SENSE OF MY PREDICAMENT.  
I BEGAN TO SEE THE HUMOR  
IN THE SITUATION.



IT BEGAN ON A MONDAY  
MORNING LIKE ANY OTHER  
EXCEPT THAT WHEN I GOT  
TO WORK, MY BOSS TOLD  
ME TO PACK UP MY THINGS.  
SHE DIDN'T EXPLAIN WHY  
SHE WAS FIRING ME.



SUDDENLY, I BEGAN TO  
COUGH UNCONTROLLABLY. I  
MANAGED TO MAKE IT TO  
A PAY PHONE BUT REALIZED  
I DID NOT HAVE MY  
LANDLORD'S PHONE NUMBER.



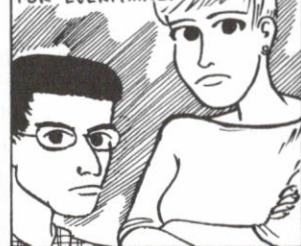
BUT AS I TRIED TO ORGANIZE  
THE DAY'S EVENTS INTO A  
COHERENT COMICS PAGE,  
TO MY HORROR, I REALIZED  
I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO BEGIN.



I WENT OUT TO MY CAR  
TO FIND THAT IT HAD VANISHED.  
A GUY IN THE PARKING LOT  
TOLD ME IT HAD BEEN  
TOWED.



FAILING THAT, I TRIED  
CALLING A FRIEND. TO MY  
SHOCK AND EMBARRASSMENT,  
THEY ALL SAID I'D HAVE  
TO GET OUT OF THIS JAM  
ON MY OWN AND THAT I  
CAN'T KEEP RELYING ON THEM  
FOR EVERYTHING.



THEN I WOKE UP.



END.

THIS ISSUE OF Time's Up IS

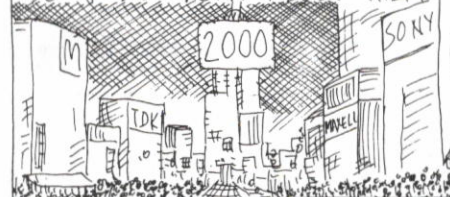
# READY TO READ

© 2000 PATRICK J. LEE

THE AIRWAVES ARE FILLED WITH  
GOVERNMENT WARNINGS TO BE EXTRA  
CAUTIOUS THE NEXT FEW DAYS. IT  
SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE IS EXPECTING  
SOMETHING TO HAPPEN. THE PROBLEM  
IS THAT NO ONE KNOWS WHAT THAT  
'SOMETHING' WILL BE.



PEOPLE SPEAK OF THE END OF THE  
YEAR WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGING THE  
BEGINNING OF THE NEXT. THE USUAL  
CELEBRATIONS HAVE A "LAST CHANCE"  
"DO OR DIE" AURA ABOUT THEM.



ALL THIS TALK THOUGH HAS GIVEN  
ME PAUSE. THE WHOLE IDEA BEHIND  
Time's Up IS THAT OUR TIME  
HERE IS LIMITED. BUT NOW IT  
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE AN EXTENSION.



AS I WRITE THIS, IT IS JUST A  
FEW DAYS BEFORE THE NEW YEAR AND  
I AM LABORING UNDER THE INFLUENCE  
OF A SIX-DAY (SO FAR) COLD.



EVEN NAY SAYERS TO THE IMPENDING  
APOCALYPSE OR COMPUTER BREAKDOWN  
OR WHATEVER HAVE THE TONE OF  
FINALITY IN THEIR VOICE. THE  
CONCEPT OF ENDINGS INFORMS  
EVERY COMMENT, EVERY GESTURE.



IT IS NOW JANUARY FIRST 2000.  
THE BIG DAY CAME AND WENT  
SEEMINGLY WITHOUT INCIDENT.  
EVERYONE FELT IT WAS SOMEHOW  
ANTI-CLIMACTIC.



IS THE Time's Up CLOCK  
STILL TICKING? SHOULD IT? OR  
SHOULD WE CALL IT QUIT?





JOURNAL ENTRY:

1/12/99

WORDS: Davida

PICTURES: Pat

©1999

This fall, I had too much to worry about to bother shaving my legs or underarms.



I usually shaved because...  
2) it had been a habit since I was 12



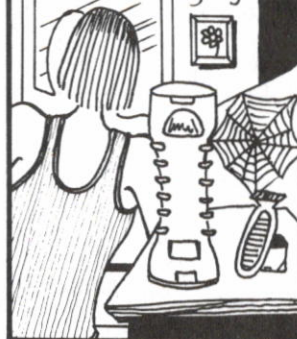
2) it was more comfortable during the summer and--



3) my legs would get itchy otherwise.



After a month or two had gone by, I decided not to bother shaving again.



It was odd to realize that there were things about my body that I had never known--



Now I experience that freaky feeling of shuffling across the carpet--



--and having my leg hairs stand on end because of the static electricity.



END.

FOR DAVIDA - Part 199

From Leeking Ink by Davida Gypsy Briar (Leeking Inc., 1999).

# BEARING THE WAIT

©1999 PATRICK J. LEE

I ASKED A GIRL OUT ONCE WHO WAS IN MY U.S. GOVERNMENT CLASS. WE WENT TO THE HOMECOMING DANCE.



WE DID NOT GO TO THE PROM.

ANOTHER TIME, I ASKED OUT A GIRL WHOM I MET WHEN I WORKED AT A PORTRAIT STUDIO.



WE SAW 'STAND BY ME'

ONE TIME I ASKED A GIRL OUT TO AN ANIMATION FESTIVAL.



I HAD TO SCALP THE TICKETS I HAD ALREADY BOUGHT TO BUY A SET FOR A LATER SHOW WHICH WAS MORE CONVENIENT FOR HER.

I WENT TO BREAKFAST ONE TIME WITH A GIRL BECAUSE WE BOTH WORKED THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT.



SHE WAS THE ONLY ASIAN GIRL I HAD ANY ATTRACTION TO.

I MET A GIRL AT A BAR ONCE. WHEN I LEFT TO CONTINUE DRINKING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE, SHE FOLLOWED ME.



THOUGH I CALLED HER AFTER THAT NIGHT, I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN.

ONE TIME, A GIRL WHO WORKED AT NBC ASKED ME OUT.



WHEN THE SHOW WE BOTH WORKED ON GOT CANCELLED, SHE MOVED BACK TO THE EAST COAST

I SUGGESTED HAVING A CUP OF COFFEE TOGETHER TO A GIRL I KNEW. SHE SUGGESTED A MOVIE INSTEAD.



SHE ENDED UP BREAKING MY HEART.

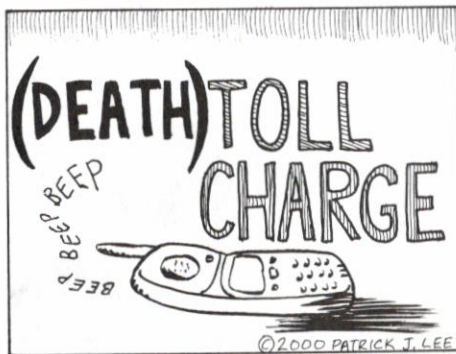
I ASKED A GIRL OUT WHO CAME BY MY TABLE AT A COMICS CONVENTION.



I'M STILL WAITING FOR HER CALL.....

END.

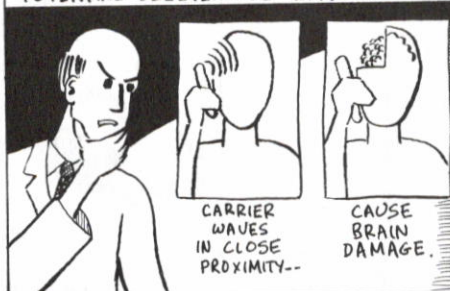




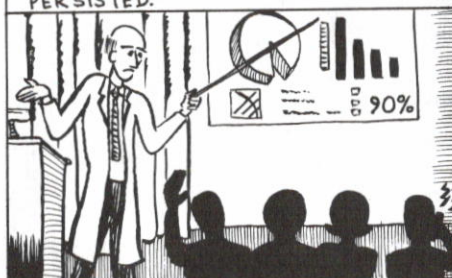
BY THE YEAR 2000, THERE WERE OVER 80 MILLION CELL PHONE USERS. PEOPLE COULD NOT BEAR TO BE OUT OF TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER FOR MORE THAN A MOMENT.



BUT THEN, SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED A POTENTIAL DELETERIOUS EFFECT.



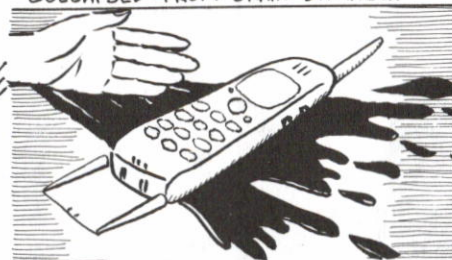
THE RESULTS WERE NOT 100% CONCLUSIVE, SO UNABATED USE PERSISTED.



OTHERS HOWEVER, FELT THIS EVIDENCE SUPPORTED THEIR CASE AGAINST THE CELL PHONE.



AS IT TURNED OUT, THE SCIENTISTS WERE RIGHT. IN ONE DAY, EVERYONE WHO HAD EVER USED A CELL PHONE COLLAPSED FROM BRAIN DAMAGE.



THE NON-USERS FELT VINDICATED BUT SAD. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT THEY WERE ACTUALLY THE UNLUCKY ONES.



BECAUSE THOUGH 80 MILLION PEOPLE WERE DEAD, AT LEAST WHILE THEY WERE ALIVE, THEY KNEW PEOPLE TO TALK TO.



# KUBRICK

WHEN STANLEY KUBRICK DIED THIS PAST MARCH, I WORE A BLACK ARM BAND FOR A WEEK.



LIKE MOST PEOPLE, I WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT HE WAS 70. I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT HE HAD TWO OR, IF WE WERE LUCKY, THREE MORE FILMS LEFT IN HIM.



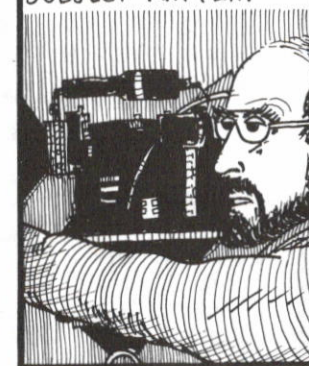
AT THIS POINT, A.I. WAS A REMOTE THOUGH DEFINITE POSSIBILITY.



EVEN WHEN I WAS A KID, I COULD SENSE THE INTELLIGENCE AT WORK BEHIND FILMS LIKE 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY AND THE SHINING.



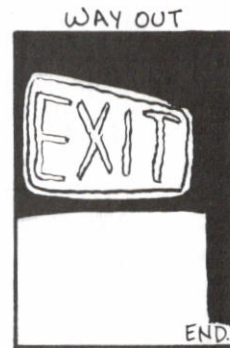
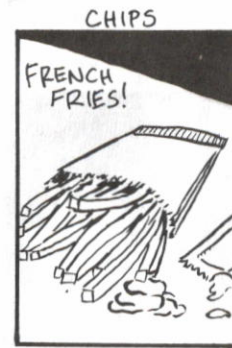
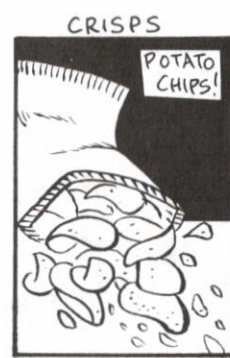
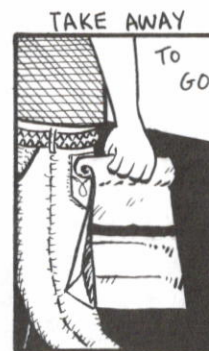
THOUGH HIS FILMS WERE NOT EASY TO WATCH, FEW FILMMAKERS MADE FILMS WHICH MERITED SUCH REASONED CONTEMPLATION. KUBRICK ALWAYS WENT FULL FORCE INTO HIS SUBJECT MATTER.



IT FELT LIKE HE EXPECTED THE SAME LEVEL OF COMMITMENT FROM HIS AUDIENCE. FOR ME, EVERY TIME I MET HIS CHALLENGE, I WAS REWARDED.











**BEEP**

PATRICK, THIS IS CHRISTINA. UM, I'M ON MY WAY NOW. IT'S ALMOST ELEVEN. I'M SORRY, I'M RUNNING LATE. MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES BUT I'M ON MY WAY NOW, OKAY? SO, IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE, I'M GOING TO BE THERE. BYE.

**BEEP**

HEY PAT, THIS IS VENESSA. I'M, UH, JUST CALLING TO LET YOU KNOW THAT VICTOR-- WE WENT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM AND THEY WANTED TO KEEP HIM IN THE HOSPITAL TO DO TESTING FOR THE PAIN AND ALL THAT. SO, HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL AT ST. JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER.

**BEEP**

HEY PAT, IT'S THERESE. I CALLED YOU AND THEN YOUR PHONE DID LIKE A WEIRD FAX NOISE-- I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE A FAX-- LIKE A LONG TIME EARLIER THIS EVENING. AND THEN, I TRIED TO CALL YOU BACK-- AND IT WAS BUSY. AND THEN, I TRIED TO CALL YOU AGAIN-- AND IT WAS BUSY. SO, I WENT TO WATCH A MOVIE. AND NOW THE MOVIE'S OVER. SO, I KNOW IT'S LATE. SO I WAS THINKING, "MAYBE PAT'S BACK FROM WHEREVER IT WAS HE WAS GOING TO GO TO."

**BEEP**

HELLO, AH, HELLO, BOY-AH. THIS IS MA. UH, I JUST CALLING YOU SEE DO YOU WANT TO COME OVER TODAY. I JUST WANT TO CHECK ON YOU. AND UH--OKAY, IF YOU GET THE MESSAGE, PLEASE CALL ME.

**BEEP**

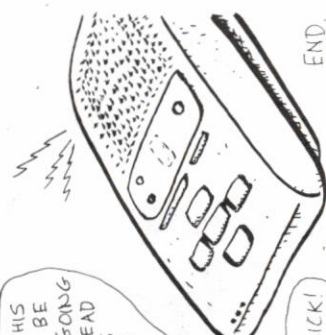
HELLO PATRICK, THIS IS MEGAN. I WILL BE VERY LATE TONIGHT GOING TO L.A. SO, GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PLANS BUT NEVERTHELESS I'LL CALL YOU TONIGHT.

**BEEP**

HEY PAT, IT'S MIKE. UH, GIVE ME A CALL. OR MAYBE I'LL GIVE YOU A CALL BACK LATER. I'LL... I'LL BE TALKING TO YOU.

**PUZZLE FUN!**

HERE ARE SOME MESSAGES I GOT ON MY ANSWERING MACHINE. CAN YOU MATCH THE MESSAGE WITH THE SPEAKER? FIRST FIVE CORRECT ANSWERS WIN A SPECIAL PRIZE!



END.

# BAD DEED

ANOTHER TALE FROM PAT'S MISSPENT YOUTH

©1999 PATRICK J. LEE

AS AN ADOLESCENT BOY, I WAS SHOCKED TO SEE SUCH AN ITEM DISPLAYED ALONGSIDE OTHER INNOCUOUS OBJECTS.



I HAD TO HAVE IT.

GREED OVERCAME ME, SO I WENT BACK INTO THE STORE. BUT THEN, I HEARD--



STORE CLERK

IF YOU TAKE ANYTHING, YOU MUST PAY FOR IT!

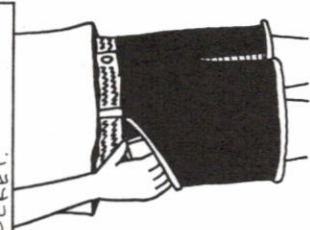
I QUICKLY (AND STUPIDLY) PUT BACK THE CARD I HAD IN MY POCKET.

BACK WHEN I WAS 10 or 11, I ONCE TRIED TO STEAL A PLAYING CARD FROM A CHINATOWN NOVELTY SHOP.



GRANDPA

I COULDN'T GET AWAY WITH STEALING THE WHOLE DECK, SO I FOUND AN OPEN PACK AND SURREPTITIOUSLY SLID A CARD I LIKED INTO MY POCKET.



SURPRISED THAT I HAD BEEN CAUGHT STEALING, MY GRANDPA SAID--

IF YOU WANT ANYTHING, I'LL BUY IT FOR YOU.



THIS WASN'T JUST ANY PLAYING CARD THOUGH. IT WAS PART OF A DECK OF NUDE PLAYING CARDS

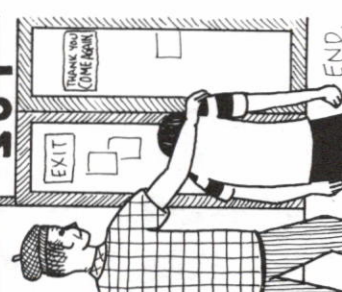


ONCE OUTSIDE, I QUICKLY LOOKED AT THE SPOILS OF MY BAD DEED AND WAS AMAZED AT HOW EASILY I GOT AWAY WITH IT.



I HAD TO HAVE ANOTHER.

I COULDN'T EVEN LOOK AT HIM. I NEVER WENT BACK TO THAT STORE AGAIN.



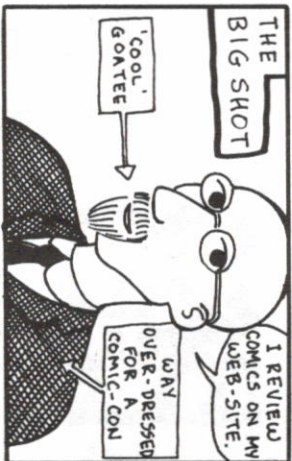
END.



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE

# 5 TYPES OF COMICS-CONVENTION GEEKS?

©1999 PATRICK J. LEE



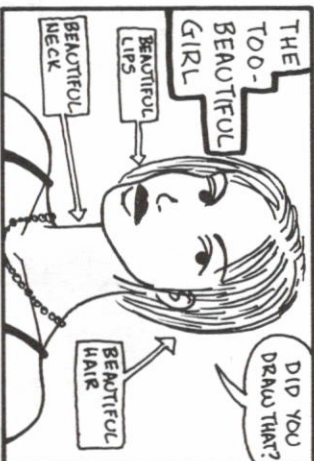
- PROMISES TO GIVE YOUR BOOK ENORMOUS EXPOSURE, IF YOU'LL GIVE HIM A FREE COPY
- LOVES YOUR STUFF, EVEN THOUGH HE JUST NOW SAW IT FOR THE FIRST TIME
- NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH THE SYCOPHANT



- IS OFTEN MUCH OLDER THAN SHE LOOKS (OR ACTS)
- CARRIES "IRONIC" CULTURAL ICONS (E.G. USING "BRADY BUNCH" LUNCH BOX AS PURSE)
- CUTESY PERSONA IS USED TO CONCEAL A VAPID INTERIOR
- IS IN A BAND
- WARNING--IS OFTEN ASIAN



- POSSESSES AN ATROPHIED CRITICAL MIND
- WON'T LEAVE AFTER MAKING A PURCHASE
- TALKS INCESSANTLY ABOUT UNRELATED SUBJECTS



- IS INTO "CREATIVE" PEOPLE
- HAS NO RIGHT TO BE AT THE CON
- OFTEN SEEN WITH HER SUGAR DADDY
- DON'T HIT ON HER (EVERYONE ELSE HAS. BESIDES, SHE EXPECTS IT.)



- CRAVES PEER APPROVAL
- THE COMIC-CON IS THE ONLY SOCIAL INTERACTION HE GETS
- MALADJUSTED PERSONALITY IS A RESULT OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA
- CAN'T RESIST THE TOO-BEUTIFUL GIRL
- WARNING--IS OFTEN ASIAN

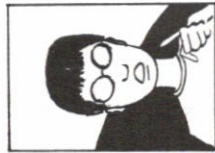
## everybody cries







A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE READERS OF 'TIMES UP'



I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU.



DO YOU PREFER 'STAR TREK' OR 'STAR WARS'?



HOW ABOUT SENN CONNERY OR ROGER MOORE?



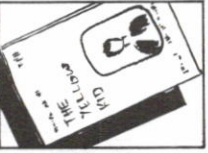
WHAT SECRET ARE YOU HIDING FROM ME?



WHAT DO YOU REALLY THINK ABOUT MY COMIC BOOK?



WHICH PAGES IN THIS ISSUE DO YOU NOT 'GET'?



ADMIT IT, YOU LIKE 'THE YELLOW KID' BETTER, RIGHT?



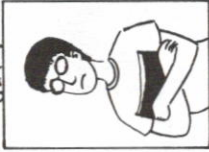
WELL, YOUR OPINION DOESN'T COUNT.



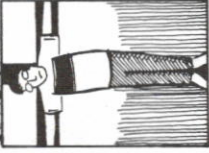
GO READ THE SPORTS PAGE.



IS THIS 'ATTITUDE' RADICAL ENOUGH FOR YOU?



AM I BEING 'PROVOCATIVE'...



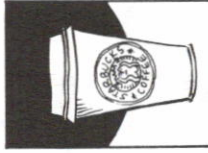
BIG BOOK OF DE CLICHES



--OR JUST BANAL?



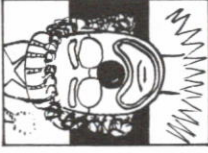
CAN YOU EVEN TELL THE DIFFERENCE?



SHUT UP AND DRINK YOUR CARAMEL MACCHIATO.



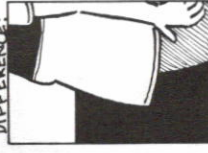
IS THIS FUNNY TO YOU?



DON'T LAUGH. YOU LOOK UGLY WHEN YOU DO.



OR CAN YOU SEE BEYOND THE FAÇADE?



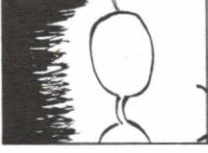
YOU NEED TO LOSE SOME WEIGHT.



NO ONE LIKES YOU.



DO YOU THINK YOU'D LIKE ME IF WE MET?



END.



END.

# ONE DAY in GOLETA

by PATRICK J. LEE ©1999



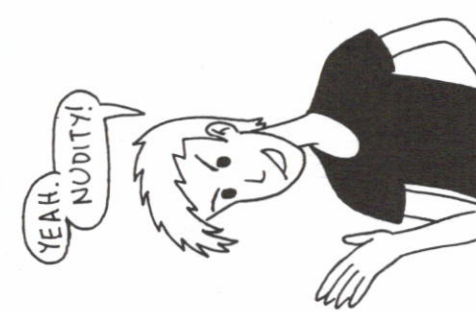
I WAS AT THE 2nd ANNUAL SANTA BARBARA ZINEFEET WHEN...



DO ANY OF THESE BOOKS HAVE NUDITY?



WAIT A MINUTE! DID I HEAR YOU SAY NUDITY?



YEAH. NUDITY!



HEY PAT. DID YOU JUST COMMIT A CRIME?



HOW OLD WAS THAT KID?



AAH, IT'S NO BIG DEAL. I USED TO SELL MY OLD PLAYBOYS TO THE KIDS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.



'EN, FENGEDABOUTITI!'



I FIGURED IT WAS WORTH IT AS LONG AS SOMEONE GOT SOME USE OUT OF THEM.



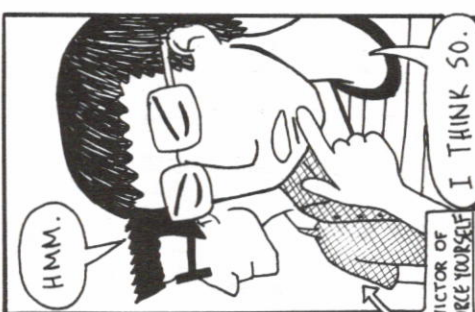
GASP! MY FRIEND PAT IS A SMUT PEDDLER!



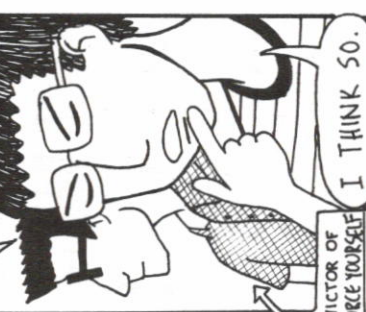
HERE. THIS ONE DOES. HOW ABOUT THAT?



IT'S A DOLLAR? YEP. I'LL TAKE IT.



HMM.



VICTOR OF FORCE YOURSELF I THINK SO.

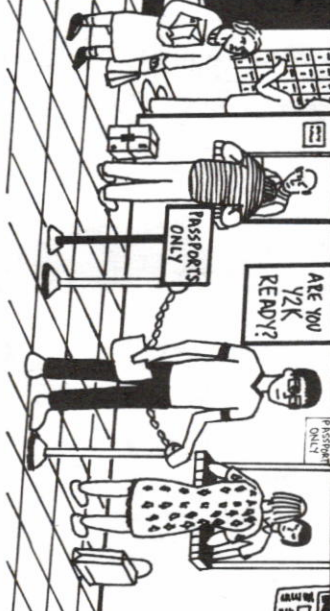


6-25-99

# ONE DAY in GLENDALE

ANOTHER  
MEAN-SPIRITED, TRUE-LIFE  
ADVENTURE IN  
THE DAILY TRAILLS OF PAT  
FOR DELANE - ©1999 Pat

FOR THE PAST THREE WEEKS, I HAD BEEN TRYING TO GET A PASSPORT. IT WAS TOUGH GOING BECAUSE EVERY TIME I TRIED, I EITHER DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT DOCUMENTS (BIRTH CERTIFICATE, ET AL.) OR NEGLECTED TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT.



BUT TODAY, I WAS FINALLY READY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE WOULD HAPPEN, THIS WAS ONE THING I WOULD ACCOMPLISH TODAY



WHY DO PEOPLE ALWAYS COME UP TO ME ASKING FOR MONEY? DO I LOOK LIKE I'M DRIPPING WITH WEALTH?

WANT A MINUTE! WHAT IF SHE WASN'T ASKING FOR MONEY AND ONLY WANTED TO CUT IN FRONT OF ME?

EHH, WHO CARES? SHE'D BE GETTING IN THE WRONG LINE ANYWAY.

NEXT PLEASE. 6/25/99

LOOK, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M BUILDING UP ANY SUSPENSE HERE. OBVIOUSLY NOTHING HAPPENED.

BUT I KEPT FINDING FROGS AND I KEPT KISSING THEM.

AND FRANKLY, I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED WHAT THIS SAYS ABOUT MY ABILITY TO LEARN A LESSON.

END.

EXCUSE ME, BUT MY HUSBAND IS DYING OF A TERRIBLE DISEASE, SO CAN I --



NO?!



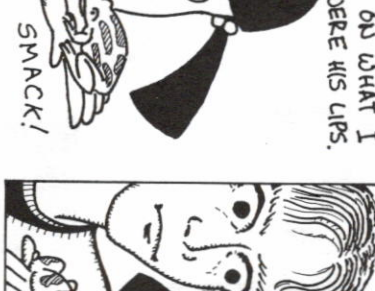
NO?!



BUT EVERY TIME WE SKID ONE, WITHOUT FAIL, MY DAD WOULD SAY,



I'D CHASE THE LITTLE GUY AROUND, FINALLY CATCH UP TO HIM, AND PLANT ONE ON WHAT I BELIEVED WERE HIS LIPS.



THEN MY DAD AND I WOULD STARE AT THE FROG AND WAIT.



Some Day  
My Prince  
Will Come

WORDS: EMILY  
PICTURES: Pat

WHEN I WAS A KID, MY FATHER USED TO HAVE ME GO AROUND KISSING FROGS TO SEE IF THEY'D TURN INTO PRINCES. I DON'T RECALL IF I ACTUALLY BELIEVED THIS MIGHT HAPPEN.



JUST WANTED TO MAKE MY DAD HAPPY, OR A LITTLE BIT OF BOTH. NONE OF THOSE OPTIONS SEEM IMPORTANT ENOUGH NOW TO OUTWEIGH THE GROSSNESS OF IT ALL.





# BUT I THOUGHT

©1999 PATRICK J. LEE

WHAT HAPPENS  
TO US  
AFTER WE DIE?



IS MEAT  
REALLY  
MURDER?



WHAT DO  
WOMEN  
REALLY WANT?



IS TIME  
LINEAR OR  
CIRCULAR?



IS AIDS A  
GENETICALLY  
ENGINEERED DISEASE?



DOES SHE  
REALLY  
LOVE ME?



HAVE WE  
BEEN VISITED  
BY ALIENS?



WHAT AM I  
GOING TO DO  
TOMORROW?



TEN YEARS AGO, MIKE LUJAN AND I  
CREATED A NINE-ISSUE MINI-COMICS  
SERIES. NOT MANY READERS OF TIME'S UP  
ARE AWARE OF THIS BOOK SO, ON THE  
OCCASION OF ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY,  
LET'S REVISIT --

## THE DENIZENS of ALPHAVILLE™

FOR MIKE - Dec 99

**MITCH TANZA**  
THE SECRET OF HIS TRUE  
HERITAGE COULD SAVE  
ALPHAVILLE OR DESTROY IT.



MITCH'S BURGEOING  
FRIENDSHIP WITH DENNIS  
LEADS HIM TO DISCOVER  
THE IDENTITY OF HIS  
TRUE FATHER AND THE  
NATURE OF HIS CONTROL  
OVER THE MAGICAL  
ANIMALS KNOWN AS  
FROBISHES. **DISC**

**BUD FLEMISH**  
THE VILAIN OF  
OUR PIECE



LEADER OF A GROUP  
OF OLDER KIDS, HE  
FRAMES DENNIS FOR  
THE DEATH OF OMAR,  
THEIR MUTUAL  
SCHOOLMATE. AMORAL  
AND MANIPULATIVE,  
BUD WILL STOP AT  
NOTHING TO ACHIEVE  
HIS GOALS.

**THE WISHING DOLL**  
DENNIS' SOURCE OF  
CONFIDENCE



HOLD ON TO THIS  
TALISMAN, UTTER THE  
INCANTATION, "OCIO-  
BOCIO," AND WHATEVER  
YOU WISH SHALL COME  
TO PASS. AT LEAST,  
THAT'S WHAT DENNIS  
BELIEVES. BEFORE  
OUR STORY IS OVER,  
HE WILL HAVE TO LEARN  
TO LIVE WITHOUT IT.

**DENNIS BIO**  
THE NEW KID IN TOWN  
AS OUR STORY OPENS,  
12-YEAR-OLD DENNIS  
ARRIVES IN ALPHAVILLE,  
WHICH IS LOCATED ON  
THE EASTERN COAST OF  
VINITHI ISLAND. HE  
SOON FINDS FRIEND-  
SHIP IN A 14-YEAR-OLD  
BOY WHO IS ABOUT TO  
EMBARK ON A RITE-OF-  
PASSAGE VOYAGE TO THE  
ABANDONED CITY OF DIS.



**FIDDO**  
MITCH'S MYSTICAL  
PET FROBISH  
200 YEARS AGO,  
FROBISHES WERE THE  
FAMILIARS OF AN  
ANCIENT RACE OF  
WIZARDS WHO WALKED  
VINITHI ISLAND DURING  
THE FROBISH/MAN WAR.  
THE FROBISHES  
INEXPLICABLY RETIRED  
AT THEIR MOMENT OF  
VICTORY OVER MAN.



**SANDY**  
DENNIS' LOVE INTEREST  
BUD COERCES HER  
INTO BETRAYING  
DENNIS AT A PIVOTAL  
MOMENT IN OUR  
STORY. THEIR LOVE  
SHATTERED LOVE  
IS ONE OF  
ALPHAVILLE'S MOST  
TRAGIC CASUALTIES.



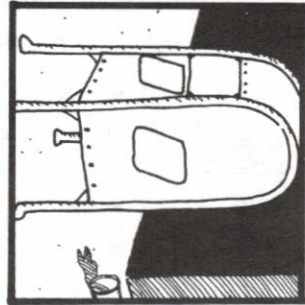
**SASH**  
OMAR'S GRIEVING SISTER  
AFTER THE STRANGE  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF  
HER BROTHER'S DEATH  
AT THE HANDS OF  
CANNIBALS IN THE CITY  
OF DIS, SASH IS SO  
BLINDED BY HER DESIRE  
FOR REVENGE THAT SHE  
CANNOT SEE THAT BUD  
IS USING HER TO  
CONCEAL HIS OWN  
CULPABILITY.



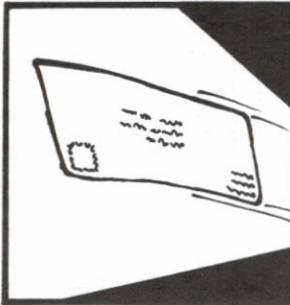


# MAILBOX

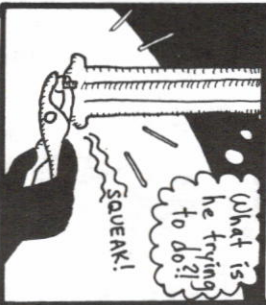
WHEN I WAS FIRST PUT HERE ON THIS CORNER, I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER GET ANY MAIL.



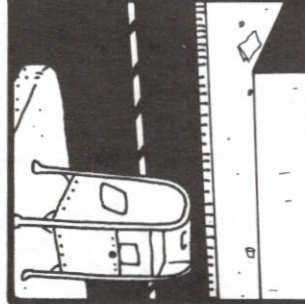
BUT I LIKED TO IMAGINE IT WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT- LIKE A LEGAL CONTRACT OR VACATION PHOTOS OR EVEN A LOVE LETTER. I COULDN'T WAIT UNTIL WEDNESDAY.



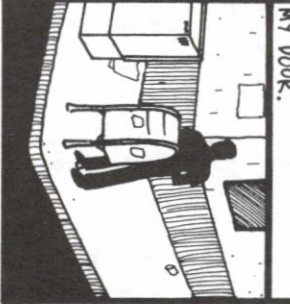
BUT THAT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO LAST TUESDAY NIGHT. I THINK IT WAS 2:30AM WHEN I HEARD A STRANGE SQUEAKING NOISE. I ADORE TO SEE SOMEONE TRYING TO CASCAD MY FEET FROM THE STRECHER!



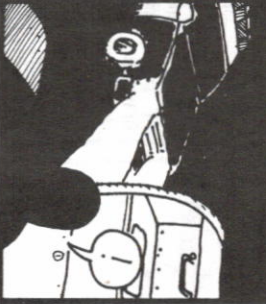
WHO WOULD EVEN KNOW I WAS HERE, I THOUGHT. THERE AREN'T ANY HOUSES AROUND AND I DON'T SEE ANY PEOPLE.



AFTER A FEW MONTHS, I BEGAN TO NOTICE A STEADY STREAM OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD VISIT ME REGULARLY. I LIKED IT EVERY TIME A FAMILIAR FACE WOULD OPEN MY DOOR.



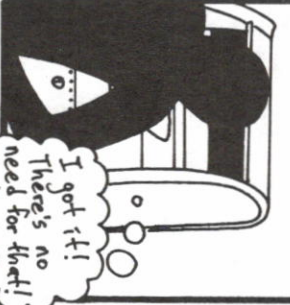
FORTUNATELY, THE HEADLIGHTS OF A NEARBY POLICE CAR SCARED HIM AWAY. I THINK HE WAS ABLE TO LOOSEN ONE OF MY SCREWS BUT THAT WAS ABOUT IT.



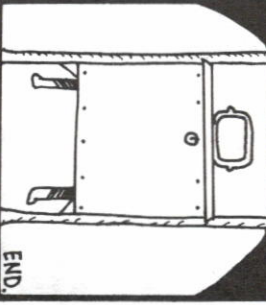
BUT ONE SUNDAY, ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO, I GOT MY FIRST PIECE OF MAIL. IT WAS A LITTLE ENVELOPE WITH NO MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PIECES OF PAPER IN IT.



BUT I DIDN'T LIKE THE PEOPLE WHO, AFTER DEPOSITING THEIR MAIL, WOULD OPEN MY DOOR AGAIN TO MAKE SURE I'D GOTTEN THEIR MESSAGE.



BOY, WAS I RELIEVED. I'M GLAD I CAN SAY I'M HERE TO STAY!



I got it! There's no need for that!

END.

I WENT TO A PARTY ONCE WHERE I WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE NUMBER OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS I HEARD. CAN YOU HELP ME FIND THEM ALL?



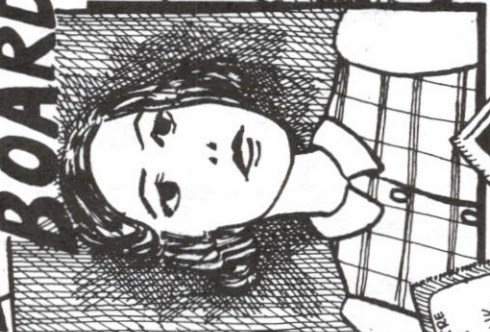
FIRST FIVE COMPLETE ANSWERS WINS A SPECIAL PRIZE!

END.



LET'S  
LOOK  
AT--

THEY SAY YOU CAN  
TELL A LOT ABOUT A  
PERSON BY WHAT IS ON  
THEIR BULLETIN BOARD.  
SO, WITH THAT  
IN MIND...



top  
Century's

PATRICK J. LEE  
MAY 12 1999  
Professional - 99



He  
the  
the  
SUN.  
SAT.  
F. OT  
11 A  
7 D

M 122  
• FOMES-9  
14

FIONA  
WINTER THEATRE  
8:00 PM  
2 1947

1 DEC ✓  
pap ✓  
hampoo ✓



14

SO NOW, DO YOU KNOW ME BETTER?

YEARS LATER, SHE HAD  
A VISION OF THE DEATH OF  
HER FATHER WHOM SHE  
HAD HARDLY KNOWN.

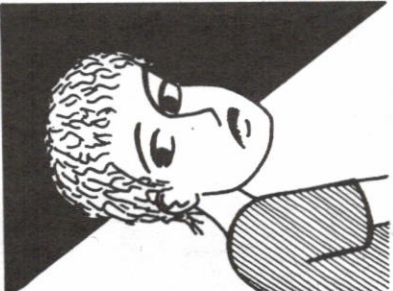


SHE WAS SO CONSUMED BY HER SEARCH FOR HIM THAT SHE LOST CONTACT WITH EVERYONE SHE KNEW.

1-800 SEARCH  
WE'LL FIND ANYONE!



THE VISION CONVINCED  
HER TO SEEK HIM OUT AND  
ATTEMPT A RECONCILIATION.



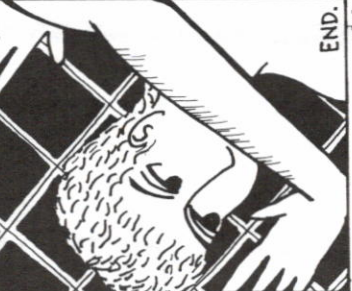
NO ONE HEARD FROM  
HER FOR SIX MONTHS  
UNTIL ONE DAY HER SISTER  
RECEIVED A CRYPTIC E-MAIL.



THIS WAS DIFFICULT  
BECAUSE NO ONE (NOT  
EVEN HER MOTHER) KNEW  
WHERE HE WAS.



IT SAID THAT SHE HAD DECIDED TO BECOME AN ADULT FILM STAR.



—

14



